

Three New Species of the Ant Genus *Stenamma* (Hymenoptera: Formicidae) from Himalaya and the Hengduan Mountains With a Revised Key to the Known Species of the Palearctic and Oriental Regions

by

Xia Liu^{1,2} & Zheng-Hui Xu^{2*}

ABSTRACT

Three new species of the ant genus *Stenamma* Westwood collected in the Himalaya and Hengduan Mountains are described, i.e., *S. ailaense* sp. nov., *S. wumengense* sp. nov., and *S. yaluzangbum* sp. nov. A revised key to the 24 known species of Palearctic and Oriental regions is provided.

Key words: Hymenoptera, Formicidae, *Stenamma*, Taxonomy, New species, China.

INTRODUCTION

The ant genus *Stenamma* Westwood, 1839 is widely distributed over the Holarctic, Oriental, Indo-Australian, and Neotropical regions. Forty-four living species of the genus are recorded in the world (Bolton 1995; DuBois 1998; Lyu *et al.* 2002). DuBois (1998) revised the Palearctic and Oriental species of the genus. His detailed descriptions and measurements have provided complete data of species for the first time. From the records of geographical distribution, we notice that most species of the genus scatter in limited localities and possibly rare ones; only few species, e.g., *S. striatulum* and *S. debile*, widely distribute and are obviously common ones. Our collections in the Mts. Himalaya and Hengduan area have provided further records.

From the detailed species descriptions of DuBois (1998), we learn that the genus *Stenamma* is relatively conservative in morphological evolution. For example, the centrally notched clypeal margin, the longitudinally striations on mandibles, the reticulate-rugosed sculpture of head and alitrunk, the basally

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carinated gaster, and the densely decumbent pubescence on scapes and tibiae are all common characters existing in most species.

In the revision of *Stenamamma*, DuBois (1998) pays more attention to the body sculptures, basal gastral carinae, and measurement characters in his keys. As a result, we find it is difficult to read his comprehensive key to species. Meanwhile, he possibly ignores other important characters such as the shape of head, length of scapes, comparative lengths of petiolar node and peduncle. Therefore, it seems necessary to produce a revised key to the known species of Palaearctic and Oriental regions based on the worker caste. The revised key is mainly based on the line-drawing figures of DuBois (1998). After the revised key produced, we find that 4 species, i.e., *S. msilanum*, *S. petiolatum*, *S. lippulum*, and *S. sardoum*, are repeated for two times in the key, the morphological difference between different figures of each species has obviously reached to species level. It seems necessary to re-observe specimens of the 4 species from different localities, and check up the illustrations of each species.

Recently, Branstetter (2009) redefined *Stenamamma* as a monophyletic genus based on molecular evidence. One species formerly described in *Stenamamma*, *S. orientale*, lately being replaced as *S. pingorum* by DuBois (2000), was transferred to the newly erected genus *Propodilobus* by Branstetter. Two species originally described in *Stenamamma*, i.e., *S. bhutanense* and *S. sinensis*, are transferred to the genus *Lordomyrma*. After the transferring by Branstetter, only 21 Palaearctic and Oriental species are left in the genus *Stenamamma*.

In the ant species diversity investigations of the past 17 years, 3 new species of the genus *Stenamamma* were collected by our team from the vast Mts. Himalaya and Hengduan regions. The 3 new species are described in this paper.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The worker castes of the new species were collected by the search-collecting method, sample-plot method, and the Sifter-Winkler method. Descriptions and measurements were made under a XTB-1 stereo microscope with a micrometer. Illustrations were made under a Motic-700Z stereo microscope with illustrative equipment.

Standard measurements and indices are as defined in Bolton (1981) and DuBois (1998):

TL—Total length: The total outstretched length of the ant from the mandibular apex to the gastral apex.

HL—Head length: The length of the head capsule excluding the mandibles, measured in full face view in a straight line from the mid-point of the anterior clypeal margin to the mid-point of the occipital margin. In species where one or both of these margins is concave the measurement is taken from the mid-point of a transverse line that spans the apices of the projecting portions.

HW—Head width: The maximum width of the head in full face view, excluding the eyes.

CI—Cephalic index = $HW \times 100 / HL$.

SL—Scape length: The maximum straight-line length of the scape, excluding the basal constriction or neck that occurs just distal of the condylar bulb.

SI—Scape index = $SL \times 100 / HW$.

PW—Pronotal width: The maximum width of the pronotum in dorsal view.

AL—Alitrunk length: The diagonal length of the alitrunk in lateral view from the point at which the pronotum meets the cervical shield to the posterior basal angle of the metapleuron.

ED—Eye diameter: The maximum diameter of the eye.

PL—Petiole length: Maximum length of petiole, measured from the juncture with propodeum to the juncture with postpetiole.

PH—Petiole height: The perpendicularly maximum height of the petiole, measured from apex of the node to venter of petiole.

PI—Petiole index = $PH \times 100 / PL$.

DPW—Dorsal petiole width: Maximum width of petiole, measured across node in dorsal view.

PPL—Postpetiole length: Maximum length of postpetiole, measured from the juncture with petiole to the juncture with gaster.

PPH—Postpetiole height: The perpendicularly maximum height of the postpetiole, measured from the apex of the postpetiolar node to the venter of postpetiole.

PPI—Postpetiole index = $PPH \times 100 / PPL$.

PPW—Postpetiole width: Maximum width of postpetiole, measured across the postpetiolar node in dorsal view.

All measurements are expressed in millimeters.

The type specimens are deposited in the Insect Collection, Southwest Forestry University (SWFU), Kunming, Yunnan Province, China.

A REVISED KEY TO THE KNOWN PALAEARCTIC AND
ORIENTAL SPECIES OF *STENAMMA* BASED ON THE
WORKER CASTE

1. In full face view, antennal scapes distinctly surpassed occipital corners...2
 - In full face view, antennal scapes reached to or not reached to occipital corners9
2. In profile view, petiolar node distinctly shorter than anterior peduncle..3
 - In profile view, petiolar node as long as or longer than anterior peduncle .
.....4
3. In full face view, occipital corners rounded. In profile view, metanotal groove deeply depressed. Propodeal plates narrow, nearly triangular (DuBois, 1998: figs. 200-202). (Distribution: Japan).....
 -*S. nipponense* Yasumatsu & Murakami
 - In full face view, occipital corners roundly prominent. In profile view, metanotal groove shallowly depressed. Propodeal plates broad, nearly trapezoid (Figs. 1-3). (Distribution: China (Yunnan Province))
.....*S. ailaoense* sp. nov.
4. In full face view, occipital margin roundly convex5
 - In full face view, occipital margin nearly straight6
5. In profile view, dorsum of promesonotum evenly convex. Propodeal dorsum straight. Propodeal plates nearly trapezoid, truncated at apices (DuBois, 1998: figs. 187-190). (Distribution: Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia)
 -*S. msilanum* Forel
 - In profile view, dorsum of promesonotum nearly straight. Propodeal dorsum weakly convex. Propodeal plates nearly semicircular, rounded at apices (DuBois, 1998: figs. 240-242). (Distribution: Southern Europe, mostly France and Italy)..... *S. petiolatum* Emery
6. In full face view, head broadest at back, narrowed forward, lateral sides relatively straight7
 - In full face view, head broadest in the middle, lateral sides evenly convex ..
.....8
7. Mandibles with 7 teeth. In profile view, anteroventral corner of petiole extruding and forming a rightly angled tooth (DuBois, 1998: figs. 328-

- 330). (Distribution: England, Belgium) *S. westwoodii* Westwood
 - Mandibles with 9 teeth. In profile view, anteroventral corner of petiole weakly convex, not forming a tooth (DuBois, 1998: figs. 184-186). (Distribution: Russia) *S. lippulum* Nylander
8. In profile view, dorsum of promesonotum evenly convex. Dorsum of petiolar node roundly prominent (DuBois, 1998: figs. 280-282). (Distribution: Spain) *S. sardoum* Emery
 - In profile view, dorsum of promesonotum nearly straight. Dorsum of petiolar node rounded (DuBois, 1998: figs. 277-279). (Distribution: Sardinia) ...
 *S. sardoum* Emery
9. In full face view, antennal scapes distinctly not reached to occipital corners 10
 - In full face view, antennal scapes reached to occipital corners 14
10. In profile view, petiolar node distinctly longer than anterior peduncle (DuBois, 1998: figs. 310-314). (Distribution: Eastern Russia)
 *S. ussuriense* Arnol'di
 - In profile view, petiolar node approximately as long as anterior peduncle 11
11. In profile view, anteroventral corner of petiole extended and finger-like (DuBois, 1998: figs. 269-271). (Distribution: Morocco) *S. punctiventre* Emery
 - In profile view, anteroventral corner of petiole prominent, tooth-like or bluntly angled 12
12. In profile view, anteroventral corner of petiole acutely toothed (Lyu *et al.*, 2002: figs. 1-4). (Distribution: Korea)
 *S. koreanense* Lyu, DuBois & Cho
 - In profile view, anteroventral corner of petiole bluntly angled 13
13. In full face view, lateral sides of head strongly convex. In profile view, propodeal spines shorter than propodeal plates (DuBois, 1998: figs. 148-152). (Distribution: Pakistan) *S. jeriorum* DuBois
 - In full face view, lateral sides of head weakly convex. In profile view, propodeal spines as long as or longer than propodeal plates (DuBois, 1998: figs. 170-177). (Distribution: Azerbaijan, Georgia, southern Russia)
 *S. lippulum* Nylander

14. In profile view, petiolar node distinctly shorter than anterior peduncle .
..... 15
- In profile view, petiolar node as long as or longer than anterior peduncle
..... 16
15. Eyes with 8-9 ommatidia in the maximum diameter. Mesopleura retiru-
gose (DuBois, 1998: figs. 226-228). (Distribution: Japan, China (Sichuan
Province)) *S. owstoni* Wheeler
- Eyes with 4 ommatidia in the maximum diameter. Mesopleura longitudi-
nally rugose (Figs. 4-6). (Distribution: China (Yunnan Province)).....
.....*S. wumengense* sp. nov.
16. In profile view, petiolar node distinctly longer than anterior peduncle...
..... 17
- In profile view, petiolar node about as long as anterior peduncle..... 19
17. In profile view, propodeal spines longer than propodeal plates. Propodeal
plates triangular, bluntly angled at apices (DuBois, 1998: figs. 191-193).
(Distribution: Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia) *S. msilanum* Forel
- In profile view, propodeal spines shorter than propodeal plates. Propodeal
plates nearly trapezoid, truncated at apices 18
18. In profile view, dorsum of promesonotum roundly convex. Propodeal
spines posteriorly curved. Dorsum of petiolar node narrowly prominent
(DuBois, 1998: figs. 131-135). (Distribution: Tajikstan)
..... *S. hissarianum* Arnol'di
- In profile view, dorsum of promesonotum relatively straight. Propodeal
spines not posteriorly curved. Dorsum of petiolar node broadly rounded
(DuBois, 1998: figs. 251-255). (Distribution: Kazakhstan, Kirghizia)....
..... *S. picetojuglandeti* Arnol'di
19. In profile view, anteroventral corner of petiole acutely toothed. Petiolar
node lower, with dorsum rounded (DuBois, 1998: figs. 126-129). (Dis-
tribution: Nepal)..... *S. gurkbale* DuBois
- In profile view, anteroventral corner of petiole bluntly angled or roundly
prominent. Petiolar node higher, with dorsum roundly or narrowly promi-
nent 20
20. In full face view, head distinctly narrowed forward 21
- In full face view, head not distinctly narrowed forward 23
21. In full face view, occipital margin weakly convex. In profile view, dorsum

- of petiolar node broadly rounded, both anterior and posterior faces convex (DuBois, 1998: figs. 290-295). (Distribution: From Spain to Turkey).....
*S. striatulum* Emery
- In full face view, occipital margin straight. In profile view, dorsum of petiolar node narrowly prominent, both anterior and posterior faces relatively straight..... 22
22. In full face view, occipital corners roundly prominent. In profile view, dorsum of promesonotum weakly convex (DuBois, 1998: figs. 237-239). (Distribution: Southern Europe, mostly France and Italy)
*S. petiolatum* Emery
- In full face view, occipital corners rounded. In profile view, dorsum of promesonotum strongly convex (DuBois, 1998: figs. 111-119). (Distribution: Georgia, Southern Russia)*S. georgii* Arnol'di
23. In full face view, occipital margin evenly roundly convex (DuBois, 1998: figs. 100-102). (Distribution: Throughout Europe).....*S. debile* (Foerster)
- In full face view, occipital margin straight or weakly concave in the middle 24
24. In profile view, propodeal dorsum nearly horizontal..... 25
- In profile view, propodeal dorsum slope down backward 26
25. In profile view, dorsum of promesonotum roundly convex. Propodeal dorsum weakly convex (DuBois, 1998: figs. 214-217). (Distribution: France (Corsica), Italy (Sardinia), Spain)
*S. orousseti* Casevitz-Weulersse
- In profile view, dorsum of promesonotum nearly straight. Propodeal dorsum straight (DuBois, 1998: figs. 163-168). (Distribution: Russia (Kuril))
*S. kurilense* Arnol'di
26. In profile view, propodeal declivity roundly concave. Anterior face of petiolar node formed a strong depression with peduncle (DuBois, 1998: figs. 284-288). (Distribution: Uzbekistan).....*S. sogdianum* Arnol'di
- In profile view, propodeal declivity straight. Anterior face of petiolar node formed a weak depression with peduncle 27
27. In profile view, propodeal spines shorter than propodeal plates. Propodeal plates truncated at apices (DuBois, 1998: figs. 154-161). (Distribution: India (Kashimir), Pakistan)*S. kashmirensis* Baroni Urbani
- In profile view, propodeal spines as long as propodeal plates. Propodeal

plates rounded at apices (Figs. 7-9). (Distribution: China (Tibet, Sichuan Province).....*S. yaluzangbum* sp. nov.

DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW SPECIES

Stenamma ailaoense sp. nov.

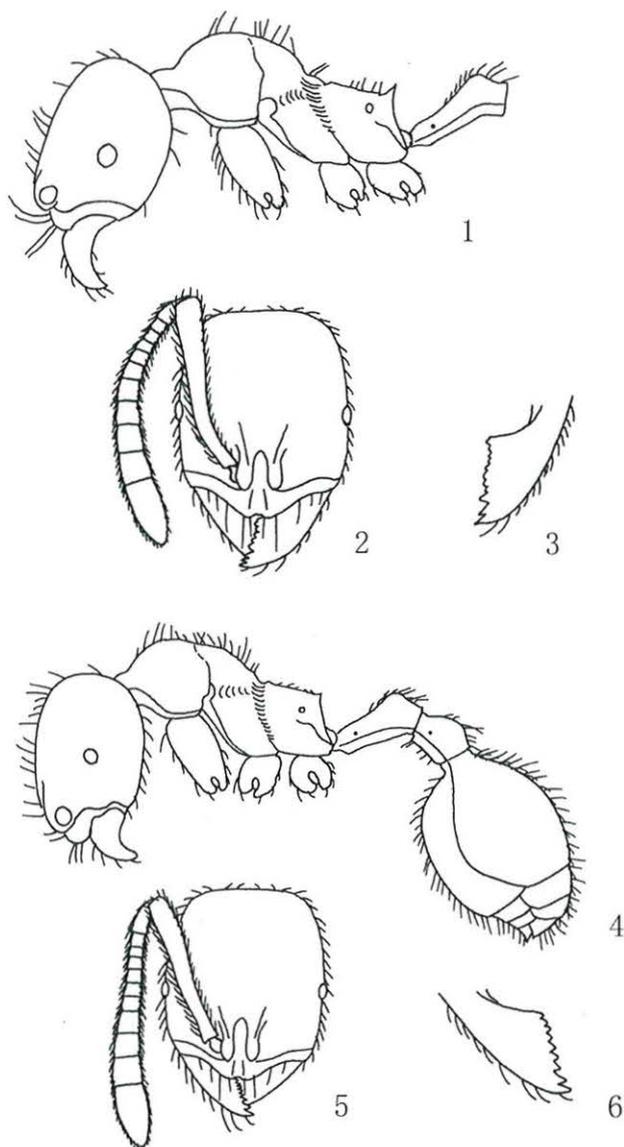
(Figs. 1-3)

Holotype worker: HL 1.03, HW 0.83, CI 80, SL 0.90, SI 109, PW 0.60, AL 1.38, ED 0.11, PL 0.60, PH 0.28, PI 46, DPW 0.21.

In full face view, head roughly rectangular, longer than broad. Occipital margin straight, occipital corners roundly prominent, lateral sides weakly convex. Anterior margin of clypeus convex, and concave in the middle. Mandibles with 3 distinct apical teeth and followed by 8 indistinct denticles. Antennae long, 12-segmented, scapes surpassing occipital corners by 1/6 of its length, antennal clubs 5-segmented. Eyes located before the midpoints of lateral sides of head, with 5 ommatidia in the maximum diameter.

In profile view, promesonotum high and convex, nearly arched, the middle portion relatively straight, with trace of promesonotal suture. Metanotal groove wide, but shallowly depressed. Propodeum distinctly lower than promesonotum, dorsum straight and formed a gentle slope. Propodeal spines slender, about 1/2 length of declivity. Declivity straight, about 1/2 length of dorsum. Propodeal plates broad, nearly trapezoidal, slightly shorter than propodeal spines, posterodorsal corner bluntly angled, posteroventral corner rounded. Petiole long, length: height: width = 3: 1.4: 1. Petiolar node low, shorter than anterior peduncle, and roundly prominent at top. Anteroventral corner of petiole weakly convex, anterior 2/5 of ventral face straight, posterior 3/5 depressed. Postpetiole and gaster lost.

Mandibles finely longitudinally striate. Head retirugose, but longitudinally rugose before eyes and between frontal carinae. Median portion of clypeus smooth and shining. Alitrunk retirugose. Posterior 2/3 of pronotum with posteriorly divergent longitudinal rugae. Lateral sides of mesothorax and propodeum finely retirugose. Metapleuron with 3 coarse longitudinal rugae, interspaces smooth. Petiole with interweaved fine longitudinal rugae, and densely finely punctuate behind petiolar node. Fore coxae transversely rugose, middle and hind coxae finely reticulate.



Figs. 1-6 Workers of *Stenamma*; 1-3. *S. ailaoense* sp. nov.; 4-6. *S. wumengense* sp. nov.; 1, 4. Head and body in profile view; 2, 5. Head in full face view; 3, 6. Mandible in dorsal view.

Dorsa of head and body with sparse erect to suberect hairs and abundant decumbent pubescence. Dorsum of petiolar peduncle without erect hairs. Antennal scapes and hind tibiae with dense decumbent pubescence, but without erect hairs. Head and body reddish brown, appendages yellowish brown, eyes and masticatory margins of mandibles black.

Holotype: worker, CHINA: Yunnan Province, Jingdong County, Taizhong Town, Xujiaba, 2500m, collected from a soil sample in the primitive sub-alpine moist evergreen broadleaf forest of Mt. Ailao, 2002. IV. 7, Zheng-Qun CHAI leg., No. A00831.

Etymology: The new species is named after the type locality Mt. Ailao in central Yunnan Province.

Comparison: This new species is close to *S. nipponense* Yasumatsu & Murakami, 1960, but head and scapes comparatively longer, with CI 80 and SI 109; metanotal groove shallowly depressed; propodeal plates broader and roughly trapezoid; propodeal dorsum retirugose; head and body reddish brown.

Stenamamma wumengense sp. nov.

(Figs. 4-6)

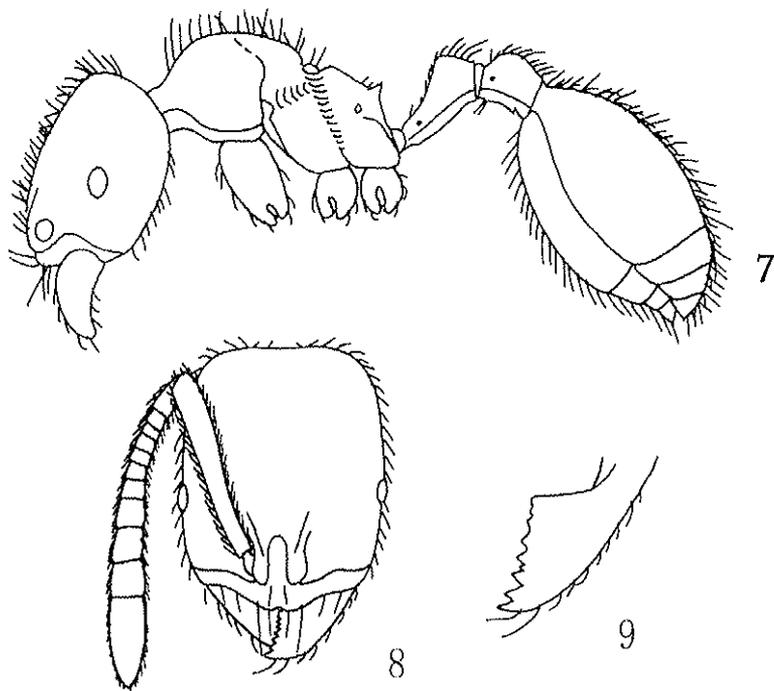
Holotype worker: TL 3.9, HL 0.95, HW 0.75, CI 79, SL 0.78, SI 103, PW 0.55, AL 1.20, ED 0.08, PL 0.50, PH 0.25, PI 50, DPW 0.19, PPL 0.33, PPH 0.24, PPI 73, PPW 0.25.

In full face view, head roughly rectangular, longer than broad. Occipital margin nearly straight, occipital corners roundly prominent, lateral sides weakly convex. Anterior margin of clypeus convex, and concave in the middle. Mandibles with 2 distinct apical teeth and followed by 6 indistinct denticles. Antennae 12-segmented, scapes surpassed occipital corners by 1/15 of its length, antennal clubs 4-segmented. Eyes located before midpoints of lateral sides of head, with 4 ommatidia in the maximum diameter.

In profile view, promesonotum high, anterior portion roundly convex, middle portion relatively straight, posterior portion steeply sloped. Promesonotal suture absent. Metanotal groove narrow, shallowly depressed. Propodeum distinctly lower than promesonotum, dorsum straight and formed a gentle slope. Propodeal spines very short, acutely toothed, about 1/6 length of declivity. Declivity straight, about 3/5 length of dorsum. Propodeal plates

short and broad, nearly trapezoid, slightly longer than propodeal spines. Petiole long, length: height: width = 4: 2: 1.5, gradually thickened backwards. Petiolar node bluntly prominent at top, shorter than anterior peduncle, slightly depressed between them, but without distinct boundary line. Ventral face of petiole nearly straight, anteroventral corner bluntly angled. Postpetiolar dorsum roundly convex, length: height: width = 2: 1.5: 1.1, ventral face weakly concave, anteroventral corner extruding and tooth-like.

Mandibles finely longitudinally striate. Head retirugose, but longitudinally rugose before eyes and between frontal carinae. Median portion of clypeus smooth and shining. Dorsum of alitrunk retirugose. Pronotum with a longitudinal central carina. Lateral sides of alitrunk longitudinally rugose, but lateral sides of pronotum finely retirugose. Propodeal declivity smooth, upper portion sparsely transversely rugose. Fore coxae transversely rugose. Petiole



Figs. 7-9 Worker of *Stenammina yaluzangbum* sp. nov.; 7. Head and body in profile view; 8. Head in full face view; 9. Mandible in dorsal view.

and postpetiole with interweaved fine longitudinal rugae and fine punctures. Dorsum of petiolar peduncle with a fine longitudinal central carina. Gaster smooth and shining, basal carinae about 1/3 length of postpetiole.

Head with sparse erect to suberect hairs and dense decumbent pubescence. Alitrunk and petiole with sparse erect to suberect hairs and sparse decumbent pubescence. Postpetiole and gaster with abundant erect to suberect hairs and abundant decumbent pubescence. Dorsa of propodeum and petiolar peduncle without erect hairs. Antennal scapes and hind tibiae with dense decumbent pubescence, but without erect hairs. Head and body reddish brown, appendages and gaster yellowish brown, eyes and masticatory margins of mandibles black.

Holotype: worker, CHINA: Yunnan Province, Yongshan County, Xisha Town, Xiaoyanfang, 2070m, forage on the ground in broadleaf forest, 2006. VII. 19, Zheng-Hui XU leg., No. A06-643.

Etymology: The new species is named after the type locality Mt. Wumeng in northeastern Yunnan Province.

Comparison: This new species is close to *S. owstoni* Wheeler, 1906, but head and scapes comparatively longer, with CI 79 and SI 103; eyes with only 4 ommatidia in the maximum diameter; mesopleura longitudinally rugose, propodeal dorsum retirugose; head and body reddish brown.

Stenamma yaluzangbum sp. nov.

(Figs. 7-9)

Holotype worker: TL 3.8, HL 0.88, HW 0.78, CI 89, SL 0.65, SI 84, PW 0.55, AL 1.13, ED 0.10, PL 0.48, PH 0.25, PI 53, DPW 0.18, PPL 0.28, PPH 0.24, PPI 86, PPW 0.24.

In full face view, head roughly rectangular, longer than broad. Occipital margin straight, occipital corners rounded, lateral sides weakly convex. Anterior margin of clypeus convex, and concave in the middle. Mandibles with 2 distinct apical teeth and followed by 7 indistinct denticles. Antennae short, 12-segmented; apices of scapes reached to 9/10 of the distance from antennal sockets to occipital corners; antennal clubs 4-segmented. Eyes located before the midpoints of lateral sides of head, with 4 ommatidia in the maximum diameter.

In profile view, promesonotum high, roundly convex and arched. Promesonotal suture absent. Metanotal groove wide, deeply depressed, and with a convex tubercle in the groove. Propodeum distinctly lower than promesonotum, dorsum straight and steeply sloped. Propodeal spines slender and acute, about 1/3 length of declivity. Declivity straight, about 3/4 length of dorsum. Propodeal plates broad, rounded at apices, about as long as propodeal spines. Petiole relatively long, length: height: width = 2: 1: 0.7. Petiolar node cone-shaped, about as long as anterior peduncle, and distinctly depressed between the node and peduncle. Ventral face of petiole nearly straight, but weakly concave at posterior 1/3, anteroventral corner weakly prominent. Postpetiolar dorsum roundly convex, ventral face weakly concave, anteroventral corner extruding and toothed.

Mandibles finely longitudinally striate. Head reticulate, but longitudinally rugose on central dorsum and before eyes, median portion of clypeus smooth and shining. Anterior 1/3 of pronotum with interweaved transverse rugae. Posterior 2/3 of pronotum and lateral sides with posteriorly divergent longitudinal rugae. Mesonotum, metapleura, and lateral sides of propodeum with interweaved longitudinal rugae. Mesopleura densely and coarsely punctuate. Metanotal groove with short longitudinal rugae. Propodeal dorsum finely reticulate. Petiole and postpetiole densely finely punctuate, dorsal faces with sparse fine longitudinal rugae, dorsum of postpetiolar node relatively smooth. Gaster smooth and shining, basal carinae about 1/2 length of postpetiole.

Dorsa of head and body with abundant erect to suberect hairs and dense decumbent pubescence, but alitrunk dorsum with sparse pubescence. Dorsa of propodeum and petiolar peduncle without erect hairs. Antennal scapes and hind tibiae with dense decumbent pubescence, but without erect hairs. Head and body blackish brown, appendages and gaster yellowish brown, eyes and masticatory margins of mandibles black.

Paratype workers: TL 2.9-3.8, HL 0.73-0.88, HW 0.60-0.73, CI 82-84, SL 0.53-0.65, SI 88-93, PW 0.41-0.53, AL 0.88-1.08, ED 0.06-0.09, PL 0.35-0.48, PH 0.20-0.23, PI 47-57, DPW 0.15-0.16, PPL 0.23-0.28, PPH 0.20-0.21, PPI 73-89, PPW 0.19-0.21 (n=4). As holotype, but specimen from Gengzhang Town, Linzhi County, Tibet, with anteroventral corner bluntly angled; specimens from Lulang Town, Linzhi County, Tibet, with smaller body size and reddish brown in body color; specimen from Pengta

Town, Kangding County, Sichuan Province, with pronotum retirugose, upper portions of mesopleura sparsely longitudinally rugose.

Holotype: worker, CHINA: Tibet, Milin County, Lilong Town, Lilongou, 3085 m, collected under stone in the forest of *Pinus densata*, 2008. VIII. 10, Zheng-Hui XU leg., No. A08-3122.

Paratypes: 1 worker, CHINA: Tibet, Linzhi County, Gengzhang Town, Gengzhang, 3170 m, collected under stone in the forest of *Pinus densata*, 2008. VII. 19, Zheng-Hui XU leg., No. A08-1491; 2 workers, CHINA: Tibet, Linzhi County, Lulang Town, Dongjiu, 2770 m, collected under stone in the forest of *Pinus densata*, 2007. IX. 21, Long-Guan CHEN leg., No. A07-202; 1 worker, CHINA: Sichuan Province, Kangding County, Pengta Town, Tongling, 2450 m, collected from litter sample by Winkler in the broadleaf forest, 2005. VIII. 31, Zheng-Hui XU leg., No. A05-973.

Etymology: The new species is named after the big river Yarlungzangbo which flows over the main type localities in southeastern Tibet.

Comparison: This new species is close to *S. kashmirensis* Baroni Urbani, 1977, but with propodeal spines as long as propodeal plates; petiolar node relatively higher, densely finely punctuate; mesopleura densely coarsely punctuate.

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